

AIR

SECRET

DBA-16556

SEP - 7 1954

Chief of Mission, Frankfurt

Chief, Berlin Operations Base

INFO: Chief, BE

GABRI/Operational

TFOASIS/Visit to GABRI'S Business Enterprise

1. Accepting a longstanding invitation by GABRI, the case officer paid GABRI a courtesy visit at his business enterprise on 28 August 1954, from 1900 to 2100 hours. The true purpose of the visit was to get a personal look at GABRI's establishment so that the case officer would be familiar with its physical layout. He felt that this knowledge would be necessary in the event a major ruse occurs when we take action against GABRI in connection with the development reported in DBA-16386. In view of his propensity for twisting the facts of a situation in his favor, we wanted to make it impossible for him to tell us unrealistic stories concerning production of the large and small format PUBLON.
2. GABRI took the case officer on a cooks tour of his enterprise. The itinerary began at GABRI's office and included a viewing of the type-casting shop, the composing room, several small print shops (in one of which the September issue of LCPAGAN was being printed), and several large halls where three impressive rotary presses are located. The various newspapers printed by GABRI are run off on these rotary presses. Each of these machines is actually a dual press, i.e., each unit is capable of operating independently. Each unit can print a maximum of 60,000 copies of a specific newspaper per hour, but the average rate is in the neighborhood of 30,000 copies per hour. The tour ended with a final stopover in GABRI's office.
3. The entire visit went off without a hitch. The case officer did not have the feeling that GABRI had laid on any arrangements to compromise him. He half expected GABRI to produce GABRI 2 as the piece de resistance of the evening, but the latter proved to be conspicuously absent.
4. The visit permits us to draw several conclusions which are important from an operational point of view. One is that [ ] is in a position to actually go into one of the printing rooms to verify the production count of LCPAGAN. Another is that GABRI verified [ ]'s claim that a so-called order form (Auftrag) serves as the basic document which is used to transmit pertinent instructions re printing the large and small format PUBLON to the press room. As a final conclusion, we may state that it is practically impossible for an employee who is not actually employed in running the rotary presses to determine the true press count of either format of PUBLON. As

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3 - COM (ATTN: [ ])  
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(DIRECT)

9 SEP 1954

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SOURCES/METHODS EXEMPTION 3828  
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DATE 2007

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WB-1-16536

A matter of fact, it is possible that even the rotary press attendants do not remember the various press runs of the PERLOCH in view of the varied jobs which are run off on the rotary presses. [ ] was not understating the situation when he claimed that it would be extremely difficult to determine the monthly PERLOCH press run.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

2 September 1954/act

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